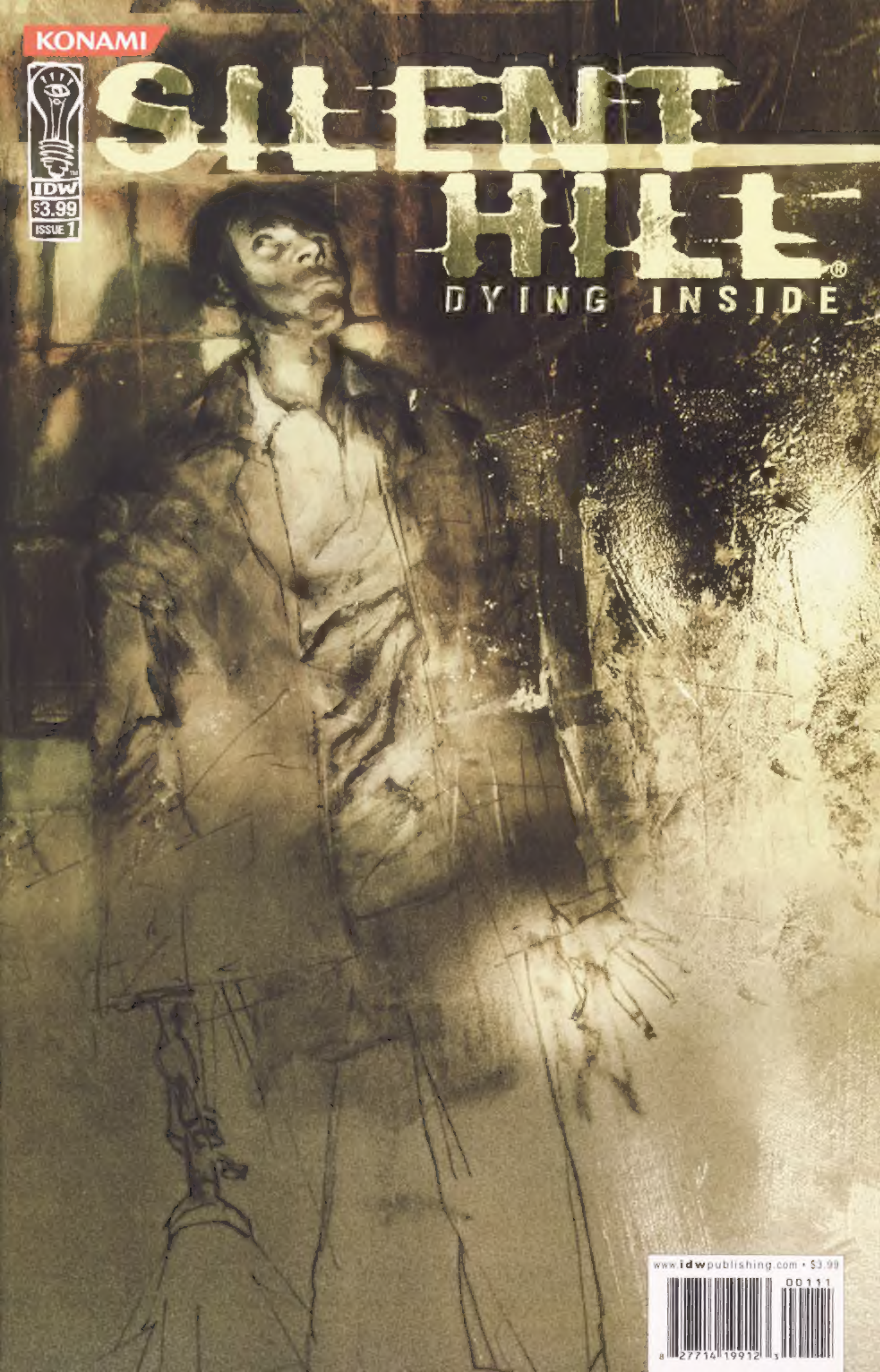
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SILENT HILL: DYING INSIDE #1

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SO, LYNN. I'VE GOT ONE FOR YA...
WHAT HAS TWO HEADS, ONE MOUTH, AND *NO* BRAINS?
GIVE UP?

GOD LIVES IN US ALL
THIS THING BEHIND ME THAT'S GONNA RIP YOU TO *PIECES* AND EAT YOUR BLOODY ENTRAILS.

AW, COME ON. I THOUGHT THAT WAS *CUTE.*
LIGHTEN UP.
WE'RE ALL *FRIENDS* HERE.
WELL... MAYBE NOT.

CHUH CHUKKK
LEAVE HER THE *FUCK* ALONE!
PARTY POOPER.

THE ORDER IS YOUR FRIEND
OH, COME ON, LYNN. A BIG STRONG MAN TO SAVE YOU? THAT'S THE BEST YOU COULD THINK UP?
YOU'RE BEYOND SAVING. YOU'RE JUST TOO STUPID TO KNOW IT.
HE'LL COME FOR ME. HE WILL.
I KNOW IT...

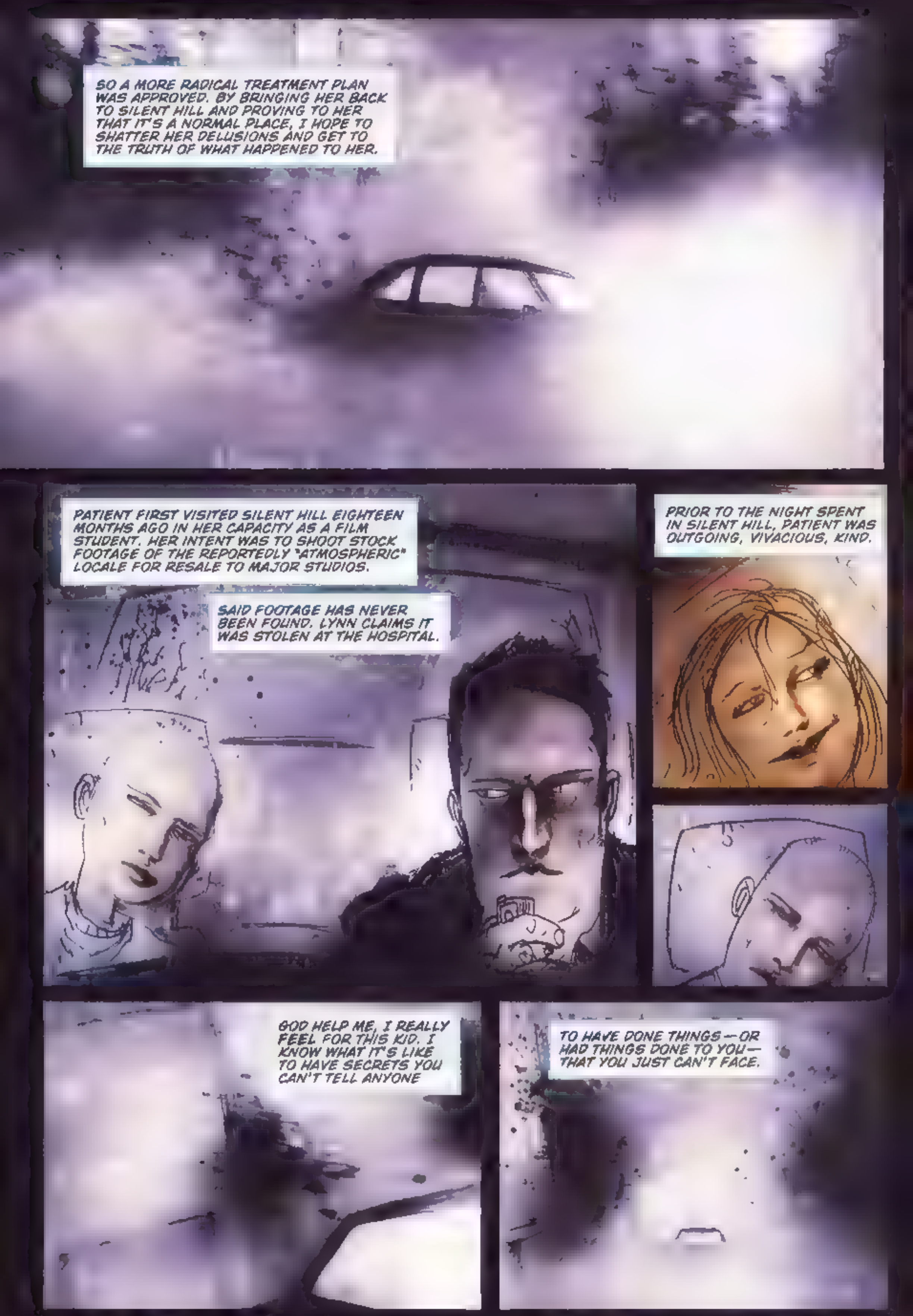
...I CAN FEEL HIM OUT THERE.
EVERYONE WANTS A PIECE OF ME.
AGENTS. ATTORNEYS. MANAGERS.
GOD, THEY'RE TEARING MY SKIN OFF. FEEDING ON ME.
THAT'S HOW IT FEELS.
DR. ABERNATHY?

I COULDN'T. REALLY.
CALL ME TROY.
I—I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M MEETING YOU.
WHO SHOULD I MAKE THIS OUT TO?
FRANCESCA.
You're in Control!
10 Easy Life-Lessons
YOUR BOOK CHANGED MY LIFE. I SWEAR, BEFORE I READ THIS, I WAS SO SCREWED UP. IT WAS LIKE, DRUGS, BOOZE, A DIFFERENT GUY EVERY NIGHT OF THE WEEK.
IF I SAW YOU A YEAR AGO IN A BAR...
WELL, I MEAN...
UM, YOUR WIFE. THE WAY SHE... YOU MUST STILL BE IN MOURNING. AND I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
You're in Control!
You're beautiful.
The Argento
Uptown.
Room 618
I...

UNSATISFYING.
NO, DON'T GO. I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT.
ANYTHING.
ANOTHER RAGING SUCCESS STORY.
AND THE ONLY THING I WANT, SHE CAN'T GIVE ME.

MAYBE THERE'S SOMEONE WHO CAN...
LISTEN: I KNOW WHY YOU STOPPED DOING PRO-BONO WORK. WE ALL MISS JULIANNA. HER SUICIDE WAS A TRAGEDY.
WE ALL DEAL WITH GRIEF DIFFERENTLY, SO I'M NOT GOING TO LECTURE YOU ON HOW YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TALENTS AND THROWING AWAY YOUR GIFTS.
GOOD. I—
BUT IT REALLY IS THE SHITS TO SEE ONE OF THE TOP TEN EP AND EMDR THERAPISTS IN THE COUNTRY SCREWING AROUND WITH TRILLIONAIRE LAND DEVELOPERS AND 20-MILLION-DOLLAR-A-PICTURE ACTORS TRYING TO GET INTO POLITICS INSTEAD OF HELPING PEOPLE IN REAL NEED.
FUCK...
I REMEMBER HOW YOU USED TO BE. I'VE SEEN YOU CONNECT WITH PATIENTS JUST LIKE THIS WHEN NO ONE ELSE COULD.
PHIL, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, PLEASE SHUT THE FUCK UP.
YOU'RE RIGHT. ON A GOOD DAY, I FEEL LIKE I'VE GOT AN ARMY OF WORMS DRAGGING STEEL HOOKS THROUGH MY GUTS.
I'VE GOT ENOUGH PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AT HOME TO KILL A THOUSAND ROCK STARS. I'VE GOT EIGHT FIGURES IN MY BANK ACCOUNT AND THE WOMEN... JESUS.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
DO YOU WANT ME TO TREAT THIS GIRL OR NOT?
Hug
Hug
Hug

THE INITIAL CASE NOTES ARE BASIC BUT SEEM TO COVER IT. POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER. PARANOID SCHIZOPHRENIA. ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.
SHE'S BEEN IN TREATMENT FOR A YEAR-AND-A-HALF WITH NO PROGRESS MADE.
BOTTOM LINE, SHE SUFFERED A TRAUMA IN THIS ABANDONED TOWN CALLED SILENT HILL. I DON'T KNOW IF SHE WAS RAPED, GANG-RAPED, WITNESSED A MURDER, ALL OF THE ABOVE, OR SOMETHING WORSE...
BUT HER MIND'S TORTURING HER ABOUT IT. THE SHIT SHE'S THOUGHT UP TO REPRESENT AND OBFUSCATE HER TRUE MEMORIES IS IN THE ROOM WITH HER, AS REAL TO HER AS I AM.
I TRY GOING AFTER NARCISSISTIC VULNERABILITY. OVERCOMING DENIAL OF RAGE MASOCHISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER.
FOR WEEKS, WE RUN THROUGH EVERY ACT THE CLINICAL SIDESHOW HAS TO OFFER: EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION AND REPROCESSING. ENERGY PSYCHOTHERAPY. NEUROGENESIS. THERAPEUTIC HYPNOSIS. PSYCHOSOCIAL GENOMICS. MOLECULAR MEDICINE. HOLISTIC HEALING.
FINALLY IT COMES DOWN TO JUST SAYING "FUCK IT" AND MEDICATING THE SHIT OUT OF HER.
NOTHING WORKS.


SO A MORE RADICAL TREATMENT PLAN WAS APPROVED. BY BRINGING HER BACK TO SILENT HILL AND PROVING TO HER THAT IT'S A NORMAL PLACE, I HOPE TO SHATTER HER DELUSIONS AND GET TO THE TRUTH OF WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.
PATIENT FIRST VISITED SILENT HILL EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO IN HER CAPACITY AS A FILM STUDENT. HER INTENT WAS TO SHOOT STOCK FOOTAGE OF THE REPORTEDLY "ATMOSPHERIC" LOCALE FOR RESALE TO MAJOR STUDIOS.
SAID FOOTAGE HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND. LYNN CLAIMS IT WAS STOLEN AT THE HOSPITAL.
PRIOR TO THE NIGHT SPENT IN SILENT HILL, PATIENT WAS OUTGOING, VIVACIOUS, KIND.
GOD HELP ME, I REALLY FEEL FOR THIS KID. I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE SECRETS YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE
TO HAVE DONE THINGS—OR HAD THINGS DONE TO YOU—THAT YOU JUST CAN'T FACE.

PATIENT'S IDEOLOGY IS STRAIGHTFORWARD. THE WOUNDED LITTLE GIRL IN THE WHITE DRESS SYMBOLIZES LYNN'S LOST INNOCENCE.
THE MONSTERS ARE CLEARLY REPRESENTATIONS OF HER ATTACKERS. AND I WANT THOSE PEOPLE TO BE IDENTIFIED. I WANT THEM TO PAY.
I WANT HER TO GET CLOSURE.
JESUS, AM I TALKING ABOUT HER OR MYSELF?
I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WITH CONCERNS.
WE CAN'T BE CERTAIN OF ANYTHING. FOR INSTANCE, IN ASIAN CULTURE, WHITE IS THE COLOR OF DEATH, NOT PURITY. LYNN'S HOMETOWN HAD A LARGE ASIAN COMMUNITY.
NOW... YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN DEMONS? THE POWER OF THE DEAD OVER THE LIVING?
IN THE LITERAL SENSE? OF COURSE NOT.
WE'VE GOT ENOUGH MONSTERS IN THE WORLD WITHOUT HAVING TO MAKE UP CREATURE-FEATURE CRAP.
TROY, I WANT YOU TO TRY TO BE OPEN TO HER WAY OF SEEING THINGS...

"...OTHERWISE, WE MAY NEVER REACH HER."
ZYPREXA WITH A RISPERDAL CHASER. GOOD SHIT, HUH?
YOU DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON. OR WHERE YOU ARE.
.. SAFE?
SURE
IT'S BAD... IT'S BAD, I KNOW, BUT I'M EXCITED. I'M ALMOST GETTING OFF ON THIS. IT'S LIKE ME VERSUS THE DEMONS IN HER HEAD, AND I'M ABOUT TO KICK SOME MAJOR LEAGUE—
WHAT THE FUCK?
WHAT'S A GURNEY DOING OUT HERE?
JESUS!

IT'S THE FUNNIEST THING...
HONEY, I'VE GOT THIS ITCH, RIGHT ON MY NECK.
FOR SOME REASON, I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO SCRATCH IT.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, TROY? YOU USED TO LOVE WHEN I PUT ON THIS OLD THING. REMEMBER OUR HONEYMOON?
JULIANNA?
IT'S JULIANNA, MY WIFE
CAN'T BE!
SHE'S DEAD. KILLED HERSELF.
COME ON, SWEETIE. I'VE GOT SO MUCH TO SHOW YOU...
AFTER SHE FOUND OUT WHAT I DID.
WAIT HERE!
GUHHH. .
I TRY TO DISASSOCIATE. NOT TO FEEL. APPLY REASON.
I HOPE YOU'RE UP FOR THIS, DOCTOR. WE'VE GOT A LOT OF GROUND TO COVER TODAY.

JULIANNA?
GRRRRRRRR
GAHHH!

WHHH-UMMMP
FUCKERS!
JESUS
S-SOMEONE...
SKINNED
THEM

DID YOU... DID YOU SEE JULIANNA? WAS IT JUST ME?
..NURSE...
OH, JEEZ... HOW COULD SHE KNOW THAT? HOW COULD SHE KNOW?
UNLESS SHE SAW JULIANNA, TOO. UNLESS JULIANNA WAS REAL.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE JULIANNA AGAIN. I DON'T.
SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE AFTER HER BEFORE. SHE KNOWS WHAT I DID. HATES ME.
PANICKING. MAKE IT STOP.
MAKEITSTOP MAKEITSTOP MAKEITSTOP
EVIL
WHY... WHY DID YOU... BRING ME HERE?
ADRENALINE SURGE. FIGHT OR FLIGHT RESPONSE. OVERCOMING THE DRUGS I GAVE HER.
HEY!

FUCK!
SOMETHING'S CAUSING THIS. NOT THINKING STRAIGHT.
THE MIST NOT NATURAL. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN A CHEMICAL SPILL. SOME PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG CAUSING HALLUCINATIONS.
WE'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!
SON OF A BITCH! YOU FUCKING BASTARD!

ALL FOUR TIRES CHEWED TO SHREDS. SHIT.
NO SIGNAL.
OH, GOD...
WHY'D YOU DO THIS TO ME?
IT WAS DARK BEFORE. LOCKED UP. NOW...
IN HERE! IN HERE!

PEOPLE MAKE SILLY FACES WHEN THEY DIE. DID YOU KNOW THAT?
SHE'S REAL.
SHE'S FUCKING **REAL.**
NO WAY IN HELL.
WE NEED WEAPONS. A WAY TO CALL FOR HELP. THOSE **THINGS** ARE STILL OUTSIDE.
I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE ELSE WAS HERE.
SOMEONE'S ALWAYS HERE. YOU'RE NEVER ALONE. NOT **HERE.**

I'VE BEEN BITTEN. SCRATCHED. NEED ANTIBIOTICS. MIGHT BE INFECTED.
AND THOSE THINGS ARE OUT THERE...
BUT SHE CAN'T BE REAL. CAN'T BE. I WON'T LET HER.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
CHRISTABELLA.
YOU'RE HURT.
THE FLIES ARE A PAIN.
IT'S WORSE AT NIGHT. HALF THE TIME I FORGET WHERE I AM AND GO TO SLEEP. THEN I WAKE UP WITH THE DOGS PULLING THINGS OUT OF MY TUM-TUM.
THEY'RE... THEY'RE MOVING OFF. WE'RE GOING TO BE OKAY. THEY'RE GOING!
I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE.
YOU BROUGHT THE WRONG ONE.
NOW YOU HAVE TO BE PUNISHED.

I DIDN'T MEAN—
I DIDN'T *WANT* TO COME BACK HERE!
BOO-HOO. I *GIVE* A FUCK.
NO, NO, NO... NOT REAL... CAN'T BE...
I AM...
...SURROUNDED...
...BY MONSTERS.
HE IS HERE.
WE ARE GOING TO DIE.
TO BE CONTINUED.